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**UNTIL
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Masters of Darkness

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PURGATORI

#1 - Revelations!



STORY SO FAR

Born a human slave named Sakkara, Purgatori became an avenging vampire, consumed by a quest for power. Because the blood of Fallen Angels flows in her veins, she is the only one of her kind, unique in all the cosmos in origin, anger and uncompromising hunger.

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IN ANCIENT EGYPT,
SHE WAS A SLAVE
NAMED SAKKARA.
BUT SHE IS A VICTIM
NO MORE.

SHE IS PURGATORI,
A SCREAM IN THE
SHAPE OF A SENSUAL
CREATURE OF THE
NIGHT!

TRANSPORTED BY BLOOD
MAGICK, SHE CUTS AN
ANGRY SWATH BETWEEN
SEEN AND UNSEEN, RIPPING
THROUGH REALITIES!

YES!
FALLEN
ANGEL BLOOD!
I CAN TASTE
IT IN THE
AIR!

FEEL
THE PAIN
AND POWER
ROLLING
WITHIN!

THOUGH
LUCIFER
KNOWS WHY
THEY
CONGREGATE
HERE...

...WITHIN
THE
CONTAMINATED
CORPSE
THAT WAS
ONCE NEW
YORK!

YOU
WILL
BE
MINE!

SHOW
YOURSELF!

PURGATORI IS SO DRIVEN BY HER BLOOD-DRENCHED LUST FOR POWER, SHE RARELY MAPS HER QUEST'S COURSE. INSTEAD, SHE HURTLES THROUGH THE COSMOS, RAVENOUS FOR TARGETS OF HER RAGE!

A LIMITED STRATEGY. A LIMITED PURPOSE. BUT THE COSMOS HAS YET TO FAIL HER.

WITNESS: HIDDEN TIL NOW AMIDST AIR POISONED BY GHOUL-SPAWNING ARCAINE GREEN ENERGY, THIS TORTURED LIONESSE, ONCE THE REGAL PRIDE OF THIS URBAN ZOO, MEETS THE VAMPIRE'S NEED.

ARRGHRRR

THE HATED ANCIENT CELT, THE ONE WHO MADE ME A VAMPIRE, WOULD CALL THIS SPORT!

BUT I MUST NOT SERRENDER TO THOUGHTS OF PAST STRUGGLES!

ONLY MY TRUE DESIRE!



BEAUTIFUL
CREATURE, I
DO NOT CARE
WHOSE DRAINED
BODY I STEP
OVER
NEXT!

SUPERNATURAL ENERGIES KEPT THE LIONESS
ALIVE AFTER EVIL ERNIE INCINERATED THE
VAIN CITY OF HER CAPTORS.



EVIL
ERNIE!
REVENGE
#1

BUT, FOR THE VAMPIRE WHO WOULD
BE A GODDESS, NOT EVEN THE TAIN
OF THE ARCANES CAN SPOIL THE TASTE...



...OF THE BLOOD OF
A HUNTRESS AROUSED!





THOSE
WHO STAND
IN MY WAY
INVITE
DEATH!

BUT
YOU TOUCH
ME, UN-
INVITED!

A TOUCH
THAT BEGS
FOR TORTURE
UNPARALLELED
IN HELL!

AT THIS HEIGHT, PURGATORI
MIGHT DELIGHT IN SHEER
SPECTACLE; EMBERS OF
HOLOCAUST STILL GLOW
WITHIN THE KILLING WALL
THAT EVIL ERNIE ERECTED
THE DAY HE PUT MANHATTAN
TO DEATH.

OR, SHE MIGHT INVESTIGATE
WHATEVER SEEMS TO BE
NESTING IN A BLACK MASS
BETWEEN THE WORLD TRADE
CENTER TOWERS DOWNTOWN.

OR WONDER WHY
LIBERTY STILL
STANDS, ON THE
JERSEY SIDE...

...BUT HER EYES
GLOW GREEN.

BUT THE MUTE POWER-
HOUSE THAT CLINGS
TO HER GLOWS...

...WITH THE ENERGY
OF THE FALLEN
ANGELS!

PURGATORI'S
PREY, IT SEEMS,
STALKS HER!

HSSSTT!

IF I
CANNOT SCRATCH
YOU FROM ME,
PARASITE...

...CRUSHING
YOU WILL BE MY
SATISFACTION!!

SHOOOOW

YOUR
CHATTER IS
SENSELESS!

WHO
ARE
YOU?

EERIE LIGHT PIERCES
THE SUBWAY TUNNEL.

PURGATORI, DISTRACTED
BY THIS STRANGER WHOSE
TOUCH SEEMS TO DERAIL
AND CONFUSE HER MIND,
PAYS IT NO HEED.

HOW
IRONIC...

...YOU
SHOULD
MENTION
TORTURE!

SINCE
THAT'S THE
ONLY LIFE LEFT
FOR ME,
THANKS TO
YOU!

DON'T
TELL ME YOU
HAVEN'T HEARD
OF FALLEN ANGEL
METATRON!

YOU
SHAME THE
BLOOD OF THE
FALLEN ANGELS
THAT BURNS
IN YOU!

LET
ME SHOW
YOU...
WHY!

Puck
HH



THE FALLEN ANGEL TOUCHES HER MIND...

...AND PURGATORI NO LONGER SHAKES AWAY THE FILTH OF THE FLOODED UNDERGROUND...

...INSTEAD, SAKKARA TOSSES BACK WET HAIR, SCENTED WITH ALMOND -- JUST AS SHE DID THIRTY CENTURIES AGO!

WHAT...IS... HAPPENING?



RETURNING TO EARTH HURTS SO MUCH, SOMETIMES, THAT MEMORIES OVERWHELM ME -- BUT THIS FEELS REAL, NOW!

I HAVE NO TIME TO RELIVE MY PAST! WHAT POWER HAS METATRON OVER ME?

I'LL KILL HIM!

YOU ARE A LUCKY GIRL...



"...EVERYTHING MUST BE PERFECT FOR QUEEN OSTRACA'S PLEASURE!"

YOU WANTED... ME..?

FEAR NOT, GIRL -- OPEN YOURSELF TO THE PLEASURES OF THE FLESH...

HER QUEEN, SHE'S TOLD, IS A GODDESS.



...AND ETERNAL LIFE WILL OPEN TO YOU!

SAKKARA FEELS A LOVE THAT DISTINGUISHES HER FROM THE HAREM.



A LOVE IMMORTAL

THEN OSTRACA ACCEPTS A MARRIAGE OF POLITICAL CONVENIENCE.

AND PLEASURES
PAST ARE
SWEEP ASIDE
LIKE ROTTEN FRUIT.

SAKKARA LEARNS SHE'S
NOT ENOUGH TO HOLD
ON TO THAT LOVE.

NO! I AM
FATED TO TASTE
IMMORTALITY...
WITH MY LOVE!

NOT IN
THIS LIFETIME,
WHORE!

YOUR
"LOVE" MARRIES
MY COMMANDER
IN THE
MORNING!

PURGATORI, UNABLE TO BREAK FROM
METATRON'S ENFORCED FLASHBACK,
RELIVES HER RECKLESS ESCAPE...

...AND EVENTUAL ENCOUNTER
WITH THE LEGENDARY ANCIENT
VAMPIRE,

RATH!

YOU
ASK, WHY
DO I DESERVE
ETERNAL
LIFE?

FOR
VENGEANCE!
I WAS CAST
AWAY BY OSTRACA!
I WANT HER TO
REGRET IT AS SHE
CRUMBLES
TO DUST!

AND YOU
WILL LIVE, FOREVER,
IN THIS RAGE? LITTLE
ONE, YOU ARE SHORT-
SIGHTED. BUT YOUR
HUNGER IS
DELICIOUS.

SHE GORGES ON THE PLEASURE
OF REVENGE ON ROYALTY!

DRINK
OF MY
BLOOD... AND LIVE!

SHE TASTES
HIM AGAIN.

ENOUGH!

SHE WISHES THE FEAST
WOULD NEVER END.



THEN...

ENOUGH!
VENGEANCE
IS NOT YOURS
ALONE!

...SHE REMEMBERS
SHE'S LYING FACE
DOWN IN RADIO-
ACTIVE SEWAGE,
SCORNF BY ONE
WHO KNOWS HOW
TO HURT HER.



I AM
CURSED...
...TO
INVESTIGATE
THE LIFE OF
EVERY FALLEN
ANGEL!
MY
PUNISHMENT
PUNISHES
YOU!



YOU
CANNOT STOP ME
FROM DREDGING UP
THE DETAILS OF YOUR
TRAGIC LITTLE
STORY...

...AND
MAKING YOU
CHOKE ON
IT!

METATRON,
YOU WILL LEAD
ME TO WHATEVER
STRONGHOLD THE
FALLEN HAVE MADE
HERE BEFORE I
TEAR YOU--

SHUK
TUK TUK
SHUK
TUK TUK



WHAT?
BEETLES...
COCKROACHES...
FLEEING...
WHAT?



THE
MACHINES
OF MAN... STILL
RUN?

SHUK
TUK TUK
SHUK
TUK TUK



HMMPH!
WASTED HUMANITY --
GOING NOWHERE,
YET HURRYING!

MY
AMBITIONS
ARE NOT SO
HOLLOW!



COOL,
YOU CAME!
YOU!

YOUR
BLOOD IS
SCARCELY ENOUGH
FOR A SATISFYING
MOUTHFUL, CHILD.
YOU HAD BETTER
HAVE
INFORMATION
CONCERN--

Dead
Onez
Good
Onez

SHUK
TUK TUK
SHUK
TUK TUK



THE
FALLEN
ANGELS! I
KNOW!

ACCORDIN'
TO THE, LIKE,
PROPHECY, YOU
TOTALLY FREAK
ON THE BLOOD
OF HEAVEN...

AND
THAT'S JUST,
LIKE, FOR
OPENERS!

WHAT?
YOU'RE NO
SPHINX, LITTLE
THING, AND I HAVE
NO TIME FOR
RIDDLES!



YOU'RE THE
BRIGHT MOTHER!
WE'VE BEEN
WAITIN' FOR YOU TO
COME BUILD NEW
NECROPOLIS!

LIKE,
JUST IN
TIME FOR THE
BIG WAR AN'
STUFF.



COME ONNN, DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH, YOU'LL BUST SOME-THIN'!

MY CHILDREN KNOW THE PROPHECY, SHOULDN'T YOU, BRIGHT MOTHER?



CHILDREN? MOTHER?!

WOAH!

I'M BLATTIDAE, THE ROACH QUEEN. BUT YOU'RE LIKE THE QUEEN OF EVERYTHING, IF YOU WANNA BE!

I'M TELLIN' YA, YOUR FAITHFUL ARE A THOUSAND STRONG! YOUR ARMY, IT'S THE BOMB!



RRREEEE

HEL-LOOO.



RRREEECHHH

I GOT IT. I GOT IT.

NO, DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELF...

...REALLY.

A SECOND AGO, THESE COCKROACHES SWARMED TO THE CONTOURS OF THE TINY, RASPY-VOICED ANGEL'S BODY LIKE ARMOR.

AHH, YA GOTTA LOVE NOO YAWK AFTER EVIL ERNIE!

NO WAITIN' AT THE MOVIES AN' BETTER LIVING THROUGH COCK-ROACHES!

MMMMM... Y'KNOW. CHILDREN PROTECT THEIR MOTHER!

AM I RIGHT... MOTHER?

NOW THEY EAT THE GIANT RAT LIKE ACID.

WHAT? DO YOU KNOW WHY THE FALLEN ANGELS HAVE SWARMED TO THIS PIT?

SPEAK... IN A FEW WORDS... OR DIE.

OOOOH, I LIKE THE WAY YOU SAY SWARM! BUT SERIOUSLY...

YOU DON'T KNOW 'BOUT, LIKE, YOUR, um, ASCENSION?

HOW ALL THE LITTLE PEOPLE LIKE ME HELP YA? THE SPIFFY PROPHECY?

SHOW ME.

SOON, OVER
WASHINGTON
SQUARE CHASM.

VILLAGE IS
OURS -- METATRON'S POSSE
DON'T COME BELOW THE 14TH
STREET CRATER.

MAN, WHEN
THAT SCUZZ TOUCHED
ME, I THOUGHT I'D RIP
MY EYES OUT.

RE-LIVIN'
YOUR WHOLE
LIFE BITES.

YO!
IS METATRON
MESSIN' WITH
YOUR BRAIN RIGHT
NOW, OR WHAT?
HELL-OOO?

IN
THE NEXT
WORLD WAR,
IN A JACKKNIFED
JUGGERNAUT,
I AM BORN
AGAIN...

AND SCENT --
RRRARRGH!

I SEE METATRON
HOLDS THE ONLY KEY
TO POWER HERE. A KEY
I WILL TEAR FROM HIS
DYING FINGERS.

LISTEN,
INSECT. I AM NOT
ACCUSTOMED TO BEING
QUESTIONED!

WHERE IS
YOUR ARMY?
"A THOUSAND
STRONG!"

WELL, A
THOUSAND-
ISH.

BLATTIDAE...
EXAGGERATES. WE
SURVIVED FLIGHT FROM
NECROPOLIS --

WE'RE
RAGGED
REFUGEES,
BUT WE HAVE
VISION!

THOUGH I HAVE ALLIED MYSELF
WITH THE HOPELESS BEFORE MY
BATTLE'S EVEN BEGUN!

NO!

WE'RE NOT MUCH,
OKAY, BUT WE'RE THE ONES
WHO FOLLOW YOU.

AN' EVEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO.

TELL ME SOMETHING I CAN USE.

METATRON'S FREAKIN' HUGE IN THIS TOWN.

THAT CREEPSHOW GETS TO OUR DEEPEST STUFF, TWEAKS OUR PAIN, Y'KNOW, MAKES US TRIP.

BUT YOU BURN. NOTHIN' STOPS YOU.

Y'ASK ME, M-TRON'S AFRAID'A YOU.

HEEEY, WHA'SUP? PURRGATORII!

FIRST, THERE IS THE TELLTALE GLOW OF METATRON'S MENTAL HOOK. THEN...

MORE OF YOUR PATHETIC STORY, VAMPIRE. SHOW ME!

NOW, MY LORD. TAKE ME, PLEASE.

YESSS, THE STYGIAN CHAMBERS YOU HEATED WITH YOUR PRINCE OF LIES!*

ANOTHER POWERFUL MENTOR CALLED. YOU CAME. TO BE SOMEONE ELSE'S PLAY-TOY.

LADY DEATH# BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL#1

I WAS POWERFUL HERE IN HELL! I WAS PRECIOUS TO LUCIFER!

PURGATORI. HELL MAY NEED A BLOOD RED QUEEN ONE NIGHT. YOU'LL BE SECOND ONLY TO ME.



NOW,
MY LORD,
I'LL TAKE
YOU!

YOU
NEED TO
LEARN
HUMILITY...

... WITH
THE FALLEN
ANGELS!

I'LL BE
SECONND
TO NOOONNE!

HOW MANY
CENTURIES HAVE
YOU *SQUANDERED*
SINCE, DWELLING
ON REVENGE...

... WHILE
CLAIMING
TO SEEK
POWER?

WHERE
TO, NEXT?

NECROPOLIS!
WHERE
I PERFECTED
MY BLOOD
ALCHEMY!

MY
FERVENT
ARMIES! MY
EXALTED
TEMPLES! MY UN-
HOLY MONSTERS!
MY TIRELESS
LOVERS!

FROM
LUCIFER'S PRISON,
I CRAFTED
A VAMPIRE'S
HEAVEN!

NO!
THIS WAS
ALL A PATHETIC
SHADOW OF THE
LOVE IMMORTAL
SAKKARA
ONCE FELT!

SO
WHAT DID
YOU DO?



DISGUISED BY *MAGICK*, YOU SEDUCED A WOMAN WHO WOULD BE DEATH!*

MOTHER, I'VE MISSED YOU!

YOU WERE CHERISHED, ADORED...

NO! NOT THIS!

...UNCONDITIONALLY...

NOT... HER!



Hmmmm -- DO WE DISCERN ANY PATTERN HERE?

YOU'RE NOT WORTHY... AND YOU NEVER WILL BE!

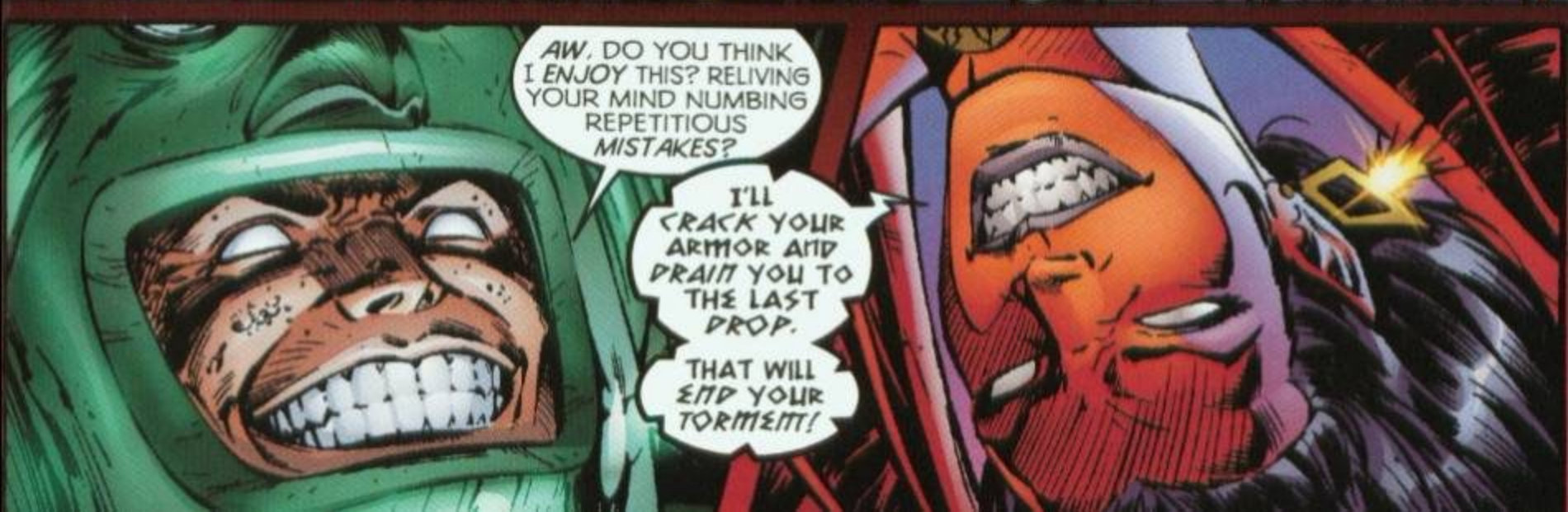
*LD: BH SHW!



ENRAGED, PURGATORI RIPS HER CONCENTRATION FREE FROM PSYCHIC DOMINATION!

METATRON YOU BASTARD!

BRIGHT MOTHER, WE COULDN'T RESIST. HELLP --



AW, DO YOU THINK I ENJOY THIS? RELIVING YOUR MIND NUMBING REPETITIOUS MISTAKES?

I'LL CRACK YOUR ARMOR AND DRAIN YOU TO THE LAST DROP.

THAT WILL END YOUR TORMENT!

SOON...

I'LL ADMIT ONE MISTAKE. I STALKED YOUR FALLEN ANGEL GATHERING TO EMPOWER MYSELF!

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THERE ISN'T ENOUGH JUICE IN YOUR DESPERATE MOB TO WET MY LIPS.

IT'S ALWAYS ALL ABOUT YOU AND YOUR HUNGER, ISN'T IT?

WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

HOLD HER!

TOO LATE! SHE'S

ARRGHGH!



NOW
THAT YOU'VE
FALLEN TO EARTH,
THERE'S NOWHERE
LOWER WE CAN
BANISH YOU! WE'LL
STAKE YOU
HERE...

...TO
FEED THE
DAWN, IN
AGONY --

NO ONE
BANISHES
ME AGAIN...
EVER!

K
A
R
K
K
K

No
room
in
Hell

SHE'S
INSIDE! SHE'S
INSIDE!

BUT
WHAT IF...
HE'S
RIGHT?

IF
MY FALL
CONFIRMS
MY
FATE?

I CAN
TOUCH GREAT
POWER, BUT I'LL
NEVER BE ENOUGH
TO HOLD ON
TO IT!

NO!
THAT'S
JUST A MAD
ANGELS
STORY!

SHOULD IT
HAVE MADE ME
ANGRY -- YOUR
INVASIVE MIND
CAN'T PENETRATE
PRIMAL
RAGE!



DRINKING
IN YOUR
STEAMING
BLOOD...

...I
DISREGARD
ALL
DOUBT!



MINI-MINI.
BLOOD ALCHEMY
IS ALWAYS
BETTER...

...FUELLED
BY THE VITAL
FLUID OF
FALLEN
ANGELS!

TO ACQUIRE
GODLIKE
POTENCY...

I'LL GIVE
UP MY ALL-
CONSUMING
LUST FOR
VENGEANCE,
FOREVER!



JUST AS
SOON AS I
PUNISH YOU.



ANGELS!

ATTACK
HER!



KRAK
KRAK
KRAK



YO!
ROACHES
SAY WE GOT
TROUBLE!



KRACK!

ARRGH!

CRASH!

PURGATORI!
LOOK!

YOU'RE...
HOME!

FOR
STRIPPING
MY
MEMORIES
RAW...

I WILL
FLAY YOUR
SKIN FROM
YOUR
GUTS!

BLEED
FOR ME!

BY THE
BLOOD OF
ISIS!
WHILE
TRYING TO
HUMILIATE ME,
METATRON
HID THIS LINK
TO MY
PAST!

YOUR
FACE'S EVERY-
WHERE, IN,
LIKE, EGYPTIAN
PICTURES!

NICE
PROFILE
SHOT.

NO. NOT
MY PAST.
MY
DESTINY!



"HER
CONDEMNATION
TO THE LAND OF
THE LIVING SHALL
SEEM A
FALL..."

"...BUT SHE WILL
LEARN BEFORE...
ARMAGEDDON!"



"IN THE
FINAL DAYS,
HER ARMY
WILL BLACKEN
THE SKY."

KICK
ASS!



I'M
OUTTA
HERE!

LEAVE
NEW YORK
TO ME!
AND, MY
QUEEN... SUCK
'EM DRY,
BABEE!



FINISH IT...
PLEASE... **KILL
MEEEE!**

YOU
WERE
DEAD...



...WHEN
YOU
WASTED ONE
SECOND...
...OF MY
JOURNEY TO
ASCENSION!



THINK
OF ME...

...ENTOMBED
INSIDE YOUR OWN
NIGHTMARES -- TILL
ARMAGEDDON!

SLAMM



THE
ROACH-LING
WAS
CORRECT.

I HAVE
BEEN PLAYING
TOO SMALL.
DREAMING TOO
SMALL!

I CAN
HALT THE
COURSING BLOOD
WITHIN AN
ENEMY'S
VEINS!

BLIND
HIM BY
POOLING
HIS FLUID
IN HIS
EYES!

MAKE
HER SPURT
A LIVING
CLOUD OF
VITAL
LIFE!

OR
SUMMON
HIS EXPLODING
HEART INTO
MY HANDS!

VENGEANCE
AND ASCENSION
ARE NOT
MUTUALLY
EXCLUSIVE!



YES!

ASCENSION
IS REVENGE.
ASCENSION IS
EVERY-
THING!

OH
YES!

NOW... TO
NECROPOLIS!

THAT CRIMSONED NIGHT, SOME SHADE SLIPPED FROM HER EYES LONG BLIND, AND PURGATORI COMPLETED HER PARTIAL MIND -- THE ASCENSION OF THE VAMPIRE GODDESS OF JUDGMENT, THE SCARLET COMPENDIUM.

Next:
**GODDESS
WAR!**